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An analysis of the genus *Migdilybs* with descriptions of three new species and comments on the distribution of the Ozophorini (Hemiptera: Lygaeidae)*

by

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Three new species of *Migdilybs* are described (*M. elegans* and *M. pauliani* from Madagascar, *M. occidentalis* from Nigeria) and a new key to species of this genus is provided. The nymphs of *M. furcifer* Hesse are described, with notes on the adults, and the distribution of the Ozophorini is discussed.

The genus *Migdilybs* was erected by Hesse (1925) to include a single species (and a variety) from southern Africa. Hesse placed the genus in the Myodochini. Scudder (1963) and Slater (1964) treated it in the Cleradini (*sensu* Scudder's Stygnocorini). Scudder (1963) described two new species, one from Angola and one from Madagascar, elevated *M. furcifer* var. *capensis* Hesse to specific status and provided a key to the species. Sweet (1967) erected the tribe Ozophorini to include *Migdilybs* and a number of genera previously scattered in various tribes.

The species of *Migdilybs*, like many other ozophorine species, are all elongate slender insects with elongate appendages and sharp projections on the humeral angles of the pronotum.

Sweet's recognition of the Ozophorini allows one to interpret the zoogeographic relationships of this monophyletic group of genera in a way that was previously masked by the unsatisfactory nature of their position in the lygaeid subfamily Rhyparochrominae.

The most striking distributional feature of the ozophorine genera is the predominance of the members of the group on isolated islands and on the peripheries of continents. Thus we find *Noualhieria* endemic in the Canary Islands; *Omacrus* in Java; *Bryanellocoris* chiefly in the Philippines, Taiwan, the Ryukyus and Samoa; *Prosomoeus* endemic in Japan; *Micrymenus* endemic in the Juan Fernandez Islands; *Ozophora* predominately West Indian, *Porta* in "Malaya" and the Philippines and *Tachytatus* endemic in the Philippines. Of the 66 species now included in the tribe 37 are confined to islands and four additional species are predominately island forms. Only 22 (33%) of the species are completely continental, and 7 of the 19 genera are entirely confined to islands.

In addition *Bedunia* is primarily found in the Pacific Islands. *Bergidea* has a disjunct distribution in cool temperate Patagonia and in the mountains of Central America. *Migdilybs* itself has a rather peripheral African distribution largely confined

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to old stable areas such as the southwestern Cape, the west African rain forest and Madagascar.

The worldwide distribution of the Ozophorini, its limited and local occurrence on major continental land masses and its abundance and diversity on islands leads to the conclusion that this is an old taxon but with high powers of dispersal and colonization. The Ozophorini is almost certainly derived directly from the generalized Stygnocorini, which itself has a striking distribution pattern (see Slater & Sweet, 1970). It appears probable that the ozophorines have been largely displaced by more recently evolved and better-adapted taxa on the main continental land masses, but by their high dispersal and colonizing abilities have reached and speciated on both continental and oceanic islands.

While the known species of *Migdilybs* can be separated by external features as indicated in the following key there are excellent structural characters in the male genitalia by which to separate the species. In many Lygaeidae the male genital capsule is a simple rounded structure, but in *Migdilybs*, in the males available for dissection, the posterior wall of the capsule is modified into variously shaped projections which are quite diagnostic (figs. 1–7). The claspers and sperm reservoirs also are distinctive in all three species examined (figs 9–15).

Migdilybs species, as well as those of a number of other ozophorine genera, show considerable convergence in habitus with some of the long-legged actively running Myodochini. In *Migdilybs* the new species *elegans* is very myodochine-like in appearance, even to the extent of having completely lost the carinations on the pronotum, which is as evenly rounded laterally as in any myodochine.

Key to the species of *Migdilybs*

1 Fourth antennal segment uniformly brown . . . . **hirsutus** Scudder

— Fourth antennal segment with proximal ½ to ⅓ white or pale yellow and strongly contrasting with dark distal portion of segment 2

2 Anterior pronotal lobe impunctate, lateral margins evenly rounded without evidence of a lateral carina; hemelytra with conspicuous upstanding hairs present; dorsal surface polished and strongly shining . . . . **elegans** spec. nov.

— Anterior pronotal lobe distinctly punctate, lateral margins narrowly carinate; hemelytra lacking conspicuous upstanding hairs; dorsal surface dull or sometimes moderately shining 3

3 Labium extending posteriorly well between and usually caudad of metacoxae; humeral pronotal angles acute but not produced into an elongate sharply pointed spine; vertex of head impunctate . . . . **furcifer** Hesse

— Labium extending posteriorly only to or between mesocoxae; humeral pronotal angles produced into a prominent acute spine; vertex of head finely but distinctly punctate and striate 4

4 Third antennal segment with proximal ⅔ light yellow, concolorous with segment 2 and with distal ⅓ strongly contrasting dark brown . . . . **pauliani** spec. nov.

— Third antennal segment uniformly dark brown and contrasting with pale yellow 2nd segment 5

5 Male genital capsule with an elongate posteriorly directed process (figs. 3–7); venter of abdomen almost uniformly dark reddish brown and concolorous with thoracic pleura; corial markings on distal ½ dark chocolate brown . . . . . **occidentalis** spec. nov.

— Male genital capsule with a very short acute dorsally angled process (figs. 1, 5); venter of abdomen predominately light yellow, usually contrasting with reddish brown thoracic pleura, at least anterior fascia on distal ½ of corium light yellow-brown . **nudus** Scudder

Migdilybs elegans spec. nov.

Entire surface shining, highly polished; head and anterior pronotal lobe bright ochraceous; posterior pronotal lobe, scutellum, posterior ⅔ of corium and distal ½ of clavus bright red-brown to dark brown; humeral pronotal spines and extreme apex of scutellum yellow; anterior pronotal collar, basal ⅓ of hemelytra and a large conspicuous ovoid macula on posterior ⅓ of corium white; inner portion of anterior ½ of clavus washed with light brown; membrane chiefly dark brown, concolorous with adjacent area of corium and with a large oval white macula mesally at distal end; antennal segments 1 and 2, legs and labium bright yellow, posterior femora very slightly washed with light brown, a diffuse brown band present near distal end; 4th labial segment and 3rd antennal segment dark brown, the latter paler at extreme proximal and distal ends; 4th antennal segment white on proximal ⅔, shading to yellow and dark brown distally; pleural and ventral areas including acetabula and coxae light reddish brown, becoming darker posteriorly on abdominal venter; an elongate white bar present laterally on abdomen adjacent to and contacting white corial macula; dorsal surface bearing scattered short but distinct upstanding pale hairs; head and anterior pronotal lobe smooth and impunctate or nearly so; posterior pronotal lobe, scutellum and hemelytra conspicuously punctate, punctures on pronotum less conspicuous and nearly obsolete.

Body elongate, slender, parallel-sided, with legs and antennae long and slender; head moderately convex on vertex, eyes set far away from anterior pronotal angles, distance from anterior margin of eye to apex of tylus only slightly greater than distance from base of head to posterior margin of eye, length head 1,04, width 0,70, interocular space 0,38; pronotum with a distinct complete anterior collar; anterior lobe ovoid, not noticeably impressed mesally, lateral margins evenly convexly rounded without evidence of a lateral carina, transverse impression deep and complete, posterior lobe with a conspicuous elongate acute spine at each humeral angle, directed upward and caudo-laterad, lateral margins of posterior pronotal lobe strongly angled mesad from humeral angles, posterior margin straight, length pronotum 0,88, width 1,06, length anterior lobe, 0,44, width anterior lobe 0,68; scutellum mesally impressed on anterior ½, length scutellum 0,54, width 0,50; hemelytra with lateral corial margins sinuate, expanded posterior to level of anterior ⅓ of calval commissure, margins sharply carinate, length claval commissure 0,78, distance apex clavus–apex corium 1,04, apex corium–apex abdomen 0,86; membrane attaining apex of abdomen; posterior margin of metapleuron deeply concave; scent gland auricle not produced into a swollen rim, anterior margin of orifice raised and carinate, evaporative area truncate on distal margin, small, occupying only mesal (ventral) ⅓ to ¼ of metapleural surface, present also on posterior ½ of mesopleural acetabulum and adjacent area; fore femora slender, only very slightly incrassate with 2 small sharp spines present distally on ventral surface; labium attaining or nearly attaining metacoxae, length labial segments I 0,56, II 0,72, III 0,56, IV 0,38; antennae terete, 1st segment more robust, 4th segment curved; length antennal segments I 0,72, II 1,26, III 1,02, IV 1,23; total length 5,16.

HOLOTYPE. ♀ MADAGASCAR: Nord-Ouest dct. Majunga Forêt Ankarafantsika, 120 m., xii.59 (Raharizonina). In Paris Museum (Institut Scientifique Madagascar).

This is a very distinctive species with a number of obviously highly derived features. It is readily separable from all of the other described species of *Migdilybs* by its highly polished and shining body surface and the evenly rounded anterior pronotal lobe that lacks any vestige of a marginal carina.

Migdilybs pauliani spec. nov.

Head subshining, remainder of body surface dull; head, anterior pronotal lobe and scutellum dull red-brown with tylus, lateral and mesal areas of pronotal lobe and central area of scutellum contrastingly black; posterior pronotal lobe and hemelytra light yellow to testaceous, becoming dark brown on humeral angles including spines, as an irregular macula on corium within radial vein at level of scutellar apex; transverse dark fascia at level of distal $\frac{1}{2}$ of claval commissure interrupted, broadly developed mesad of radius with a pale spot near apical mesal corner, then developed laterad of radial vein only on explanate non-punctate marginal area; pale macula distally on corium broadly dark brown; membrane infuscated with dark brown, veins pale; legs, 2nd and proximal $\frac{2}{3}$ of 3rd antennal segment light yellow, a broad band just before distal end of femora, a subproximal band and extreme distal end of tibiae, 3rd tarsal segment, proximal end and distal $\frac{1}{3}$ of 3rd antennal segment and distal $\frac{2}{3}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of 4th antennal segment dark fuscous brown; 1st antennal segment reddish brown; proximal $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$ of 4th antennal segment white; dorsal surface bearing only very short inconspicuous hairs in the punctures, appearing nearly glabrous; mesal portion of head finely punctate and transversely striate, pronotal collar, posterior pronotal lobe, scutellum and hemelytra coarsely punctate with smaller but distinct and conspicuous punctures present on and between pronotal calli.

Head strongly produced anterior to eyes, distance from anterior eye margin to apex of tylus at least twice that of distance from base of head to posterior margin of eyes, vertex only moderately convex, eyes not strongly produced laterad, head surface irregular, length head 0,94, width 0,68, interocular space 0,40; pronotum with anterior collar complete, slightly widened mesally, coarsely punctate in collar incision, anterior lobe rounded with calli occupying most of surface but separated from one another by a distinct shallow punctate median impression, lateral margins with a very narrow carina, posterior pronotal lobe strongly narrowing antero-mesad from humeral angles, latter with a short sharp acute caudo-lateral directed spine, transverse impression complete but shallow mesally, posterior margin straight, length pronotum 0,94, width 1,18; length anterior lobe 0,50, width anterior lobe 0,84; scutellum depressed anteriorly near middle with posterior $\frac{1}{2}$ elevated mesally into a caudally tapered ridge, length scutellum 0,54, width 0,50; hemelytra with lateral corial margins evenly broadened and conspicuously explanate caudad of level of distal end of scutellum, membrane noticeably shortened, extending only on to anterior portion of 7th abdominal tergum, leaving distal end of abdomen broadly exposed, distance apex clavus-apex corium 0,74, apex corium-apex abdomen 0,75, length membrane, 1,32, length claval commissure 0,70; scent gland auricle small, simple, rounded, evaporative area with outer margin strongly convexly rounded, reaching to dorsal $\frac{1}{3}$ of metapleuron along anterior margin and curving strongly ventrad (mesad) to posterior margin, also occupying adjacent area of mesopleuron; fore femora slender, mutic; labium extending between mesocoxae, length labial segments I 0,60, II–IV obscured; length antennal segments I 0,68, II 1,26, III 0,96, IV 1,06 (III & IV from paratype); total length 4,92.

HOLOTYPE. ♂ MADAGASCAR: Mt. Tsaratarana, 1500 m., Forêt de Mousses, x.49 (R. P.). In Paris Museum (Institut Scientifique Madagascar).

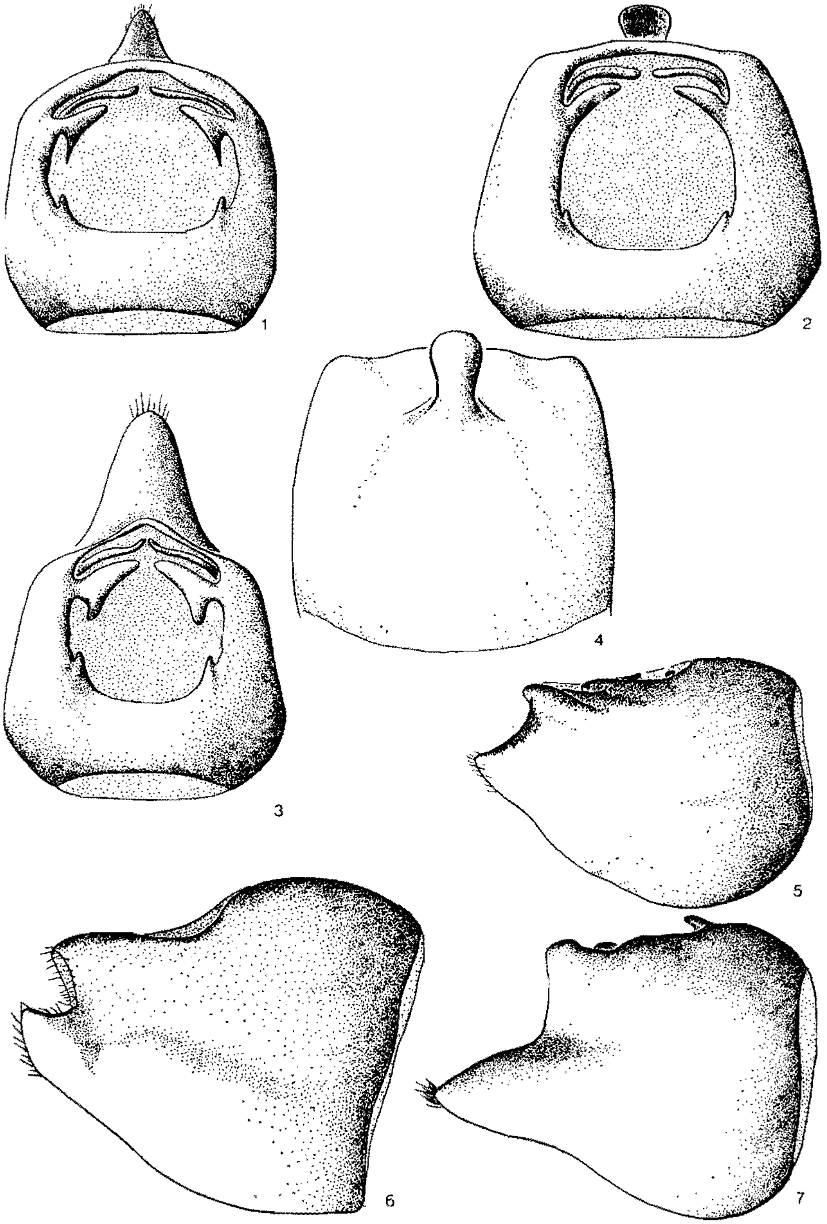
PARATYPE. 1 ♀ same data as holotype. In J. A. Slater collection.

M. pauliani is a relatively dull-coloured species of small size. The specimens appear to be slightly brachypterous with the membrane not attaining the end of the abdomen and the corium more broadly expanded laterally to give a much less elongate habitus than in the other species of the genus. The dark and light coloration of the hemelytra is more mottled than in the other species, so that the pale subapical corial macula is less contrasting. *M. pauliani* appears to be most similar to *occidentalis*, not only in general habitus, but also in the possession of a somewhat similar elongate conical projection from the posterior end of the genital capsule.

Migdilybs occidentalis spec. nov., figs 3, 7, 10, 12, 14

Dorsal surface shining, but less polished than *elegans;* marked with dark reddish brown as follows: head, anterior pronotal lobe except anterior collar, humeral spines and irregular infuscations and rays on posterior pronotal lobe, especially posteriorly, scutellum except extreme posterior end, a small macula on corium just within radius and somewhat anterior to level of apex of scutellum, diffuse area on posterior ½ of clavus, a broad transverse band across corium extending from meson to margin, broadly developed (equally) anterior and posterior to level of distal end of claval commissure, a large area just before apex of corium which is joined with more proximal fascia narrowly along apical corial margin, membrane except for a small elongate area adjacent to apex of corium and a broad median pale area at apex of membrane, entire pleural and ventral surfaces, entire 3rd and distal ½ to ⅔ of 4th antennal segment; remainder of body bright yellow to testaceous including anterior pronotal collar, apex of scutellum, large ovoid macula on distal area of corium and small macula just posterior to distal end of claval commissure, all legs, 1st, 2nd and proximal ⅓ of 4th antennal segments; head anterior to and between eyes densely clothed with decumbent hairs, remainder of body appearing glabrous but with minute hairs present in punctures; head vertex finely punctate and striate, remainder of body conspicuously punctate, calli largely smooth but with scattered punctures on surface and coarsely punctate on median impression between calli.

Head with distance anterior to eyes twice or more than twice distance posterior to eye, area across vertex only sightly convex, length head 0,88, width 0,78, interocular space 0,34; pronotum with anterior lobe only moderately convex, lateral margins of both lobes sharply carinate, humeral angles produced into a thick straight sharp spine, posterior margin straight or very feebly concave, length pronotum 1,0, width 1,32, length anterior lobe 0,42, width anterior lobe 0,82; scutellum conventional with a median impression, length scutellum 0,76, width 0,70; hemelytra with lateral corial margins distinctly explanate, shallowly sinuate, slightly expanded caudad of level of distal end of scutellum, membrane slightly exceeding apex of abdomen, distance apex clavus–apex corium 1,44, apex corium–apex abdomen 0,94, length claval commissure 0,82; scent gland auricle small, rounded, typical for genus, evaporative area truncate on outer (dorsal) end, occupying entire ventral (mesal) ¾ of metapleuron and adjacent area of mesopleuron; fore femora slender, armed below with a short sharp spine near distal end on right femur, (left femur may be mutic); labium extending well between mesocoxae, length labial segments I 0,68, II 0,74, III 0,46, IV 0,34; length antennal segments I 0,80, II 1,64, III 1,26, IV (paratype) 1,46; total length 5,64; genital capsule with posterior surface prolonged into a very elongate conical protrusion (figs 3, 7); dorsal rim of orifice with a prominent anvil-like mesally directed



Figs. 1—7. *Migdilybs* spp., male genital capsule. 1. *M. nudus* Scudder, dorsal view. 2. *M. furcifer* Hesse, dorsal view. 3. *M. occidentalis* spec. nov., dorsal view. 4. *M. furcifer*, ventral view. 5. *M. nudus*, lateral view. 6. *M. furcifer*, lateral view. 7. *M. occidentalis*, lateral view.

projection arising near level of paramere attachment (fig. 3); paramere with an elongate blade and strongly produced and irregularly rounded inner lobe (fig. 14); sperm reservoir with bulb elliptical, wings broad and strap-like in dorsal view (fig. 12), wings strongly curved ventrad distally (fig. 10) to reach ventral-basal curvature of bulb.

HOLOTYPE. ♂ NIGERIA: Ile-Ife, 27.iii.1969 (J. T. Medler). In Paris Museum.

PARATYPES. 2 ♀, same data as holotype; 2 ♂ 3 ♀ NIGERIA: Ile-Ife, 10.iii.1969 (J. T. Medler). In J. A. Slater collection.

The placement and number of fore femoral spines shows considerable variation even in this short series. There are from apparently none to three spines present, with the third spine sometimes set near the middle of the femur, far from the two close-set spines near the distal end, or the third "spine" may appear to be a bluntly rounded tubercle.

M. occidentalis is most closely related to *pauliani* from Madagascar, the elongate projection on the genital capsule being similar in the two species. It is a larger, more elongate species than *pauliani* with a more strongly contrasting color pattern on the hemelytra.

Migdilybs nudus Scudder, figs 1, 5, 9, 11, 15

Migdilybs nudus Scudder, 1963, *Can. Ent.* 95:1248.

This species was described from the Ankarafantsika Forest Reserve. I have examined a male and female from the same locality taken the same month and year which probably represents material from the same collecting party. The species is more closely related to *occidentalis* from Nigeria than to either of the other Madagascar species. It is lighter coloured than are most other species of *Migdilybs*. Scudder's (1963) key separates this species by the punctate head, but it should be noted that the punctures are much smaller than are those on the pronotum and hemelytra, and the punctate area on the vertex is striate, the condition being similar to that in *occidentalis*, *pauliani* and *elegans*. The fore femora occasionally possess one or two small obscure spines, although most frequently they are mutic.

The series from "Nosy-Be" is almost certainly conspecific although the fourth antennal segment averages somewhat longer. The specimen listed below from Mont Fapango is mutilated. It differs in having a dark median pronotal stripe that includes the anterior collar, dark rays on the posterior pronotal lobe and a darkened central area to the scutellum posteriorly. The mid and hind femora (fore legs missing) possess a prominent dark band just before the distal end. This specimen either represents a variant, possibly geographic, of *nudus* or a closely related species. The genital capsule has the posterior surface produced into a short acute upward-angled tapering process (figs 1, 5) and the dorsal rim of the opening has an anvil-like inwardly directed process arising near the base of the parameres, similar to that in *occidentalis* but with the basally directed process more acute (fig. 1). The paramere has an elongate irregular tapering blade and the inner lobe prominent, somewhat down-curved and bifurcate (fig. 9). The sperm reservoir has the bulb short and broad, the wings strongly recurved from the attachment or bulb membrane, then strap-like (fig. 15), and the wings distally very strongly curved ventrad to extend far below the basal margin of the bulb (fig. 1).

MATERIAL EXAMINED. MADAGASCAR: 2 ♂ 3 ♀ Sambirano, Nosy-Be Forêt de Lokobe, xii.58 (Andria Robinson), 1 ♂ 3 ♀ same but i. 60, 1 ♂ 1 ♀ Nord-ouest dct. Majunga Forêt Ankarafantsika, 120 m., xii. 59 (Raharizonina), 1 ♀ Sud-est dct. Midongy du Sud Mont Fapango, 1200 m. (sud-ouest Befotaka) iii. 59 (Andria R.). In Institut Scientifique Madagascar and J. A. Slater collections.

M. nudus is an elongate slender species of a pale yellow and reddish brown colour and with very strongly developed acute humeral spines. It is related to *occidentalis* and *pauliani* and may well prove to be ancestral to the highly derived *elegans*.

Migdilybs furcifer Hesse, figs 2, 4, 6, 8, 13

Migdilybs furcifer Hesse, 1925, *Ann. S. Afr. Mus.* 23:77–78.

This species was described by Hesse as the type species of *Migdilybs*. The type locality is uncertain, Hesse stating "S. W. Africa?". At the same time Hesse described a variety *capensis* from Cape Town. Typical *furcifer* was said to have three small spines on the ventral surface of the fore femora. Variety *capensis* was stated to differ in having mutic fore femora and also by having less acutely produced humeral angles. Scudder (1963) in his key to *Migdilybs* (p. 1248) keys out *capensis* separately from *furcifer*, stating after *capensis* "stat. nov." (In his abstract he states that he is raising *capensis* to specific status.) Scudder apparently did have specimens of *furcifer*, for he compared it with his new Madagascar species *nudus*. Oddly enough he does not compare the latter with *capensis* to which the alleged mutic fore femora would seem to more closely relate it. The series of 29 specimens noted below were all taken with numerous nymphs at exactly the same collecting site. This series shows considerable variability in the condition of the fore femoral spines. Of 15 males examined six possess fore femoral spines, two of them having two spines present. Specimens exist with all combinations from mutic to two spines on each leg. Five females checked all possess at least one spine. The humeral angles also vary slightly in their degree of development. Therefore until adequate series are studied it seems unwise to consider two subspecies as being represented. The characters used by Scudder to recognize two species seem to break down completely, and unless he has evidence not discussed in the paper his action appears to be unjustified. Therefore, I believe that for the present it is unwise to consider that more than a single species is present in South Africa.

M. furcifer is readily distinguishable from the other species of *Migdilybs* by the very strongly convex and non-punctate vertex, the sharply produced but not elongately and acutely spined pronotal humeral angles, narrow but evident explanate lateral pronotal margins, and by the elongate labium which usually extends beyond the posterior margins of the metacoxae. The acetabula and coxae are white or pale testaceous and the evaporative area is truncate distally and occupies only the ventral (mesal) half of the metapleuron. The genital capsule has the posterior wall dorsally provided with a unique upcurved distally widened spatulate process (figs 2, 4, 6) and the inner margin of the capsule orifice near the paramere attachment with only a simple inward protrusion (fig. 2), lacking the anvil-like bifurcate processes of *occidentalis* and *nudus*.

Figs. 8–15. *Migdilybs* spp. 8. *M. furcifer* Hesse, fifth-instar nymph, dorsal view. 9. *M. nudus* Scudder, paramere. 10. *M. occidentalis* spec. nov., sperm reservoir, lateral view. 11. *M. nudus*, sperm reservoir, lateral view. 12. *M. occidentalis*, sperm reservoir, dorsal view. 13. *M. furcifer*, paramere. 14. *M. occidentalis*, paramere. 15. *M. nudus*, sperm reservoir, dorsal view.

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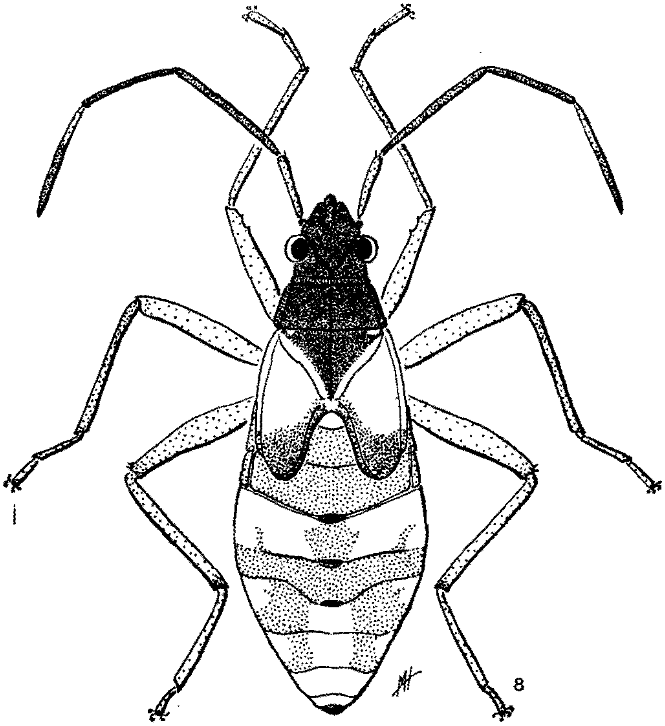
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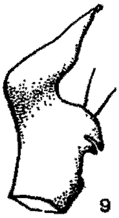
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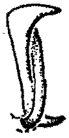
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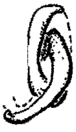
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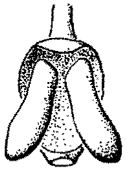
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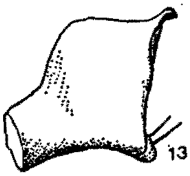
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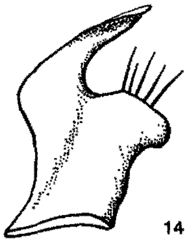
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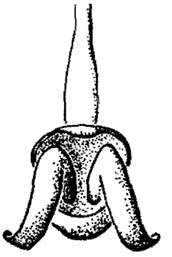
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The paramere is unique, block-like, with only a small very short blade and with the inner margin almost straight with a very small lobe at the lower angle (fig. 13).

The peculiar clasper (fig. 13) and the spatulate process on the genital capsule (figs 2, 4, 6) show the isolated position of *furcifer* within the genus, at least relative to those species whose genitalia are known.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA: 19 ♂ 10 ♀, *Cape Province:* Neuwieskloof Pass, Tulbagh, 27.i.1968 (J. A. & S. Slater, T. Schuh, M. H. Sweet), 1 ♀ Middleburg (?), 11–28–29–45 (D. Campbell).

DESCRIPTION OF NYMPHS

Fifth instar: (alcohol) Tulbagh (48) (fig. 8). Hesse (1925) described "a larval stage." His colour description is accurate in general, although it should be pointed out that the pale lines mentioned on the head actually refer to the epicranial arms and stem. His mention of "vestigial wingpads" refers to the mesothoracic wing pads. The scutellum is not entirely dark brown but is pale whitish yellow laterally with a mesally brown area which has a very irregular lateral margin. The darkened distal area of the mesothoracic wing pads is sharply angled meso-dorsad from the lateral margins. Hesse's statement that there are three alternating red and yellowish white abdominal fascia needs some modification. A more accurate characterization would be: ground colour of abdominal tergum white, marked with light red as follows: tergum 2, tergum 3 except narrowly adjacent to posterior margin but mesally extending caudad to anterior scent gland opening, elongately elliptical mesal area on tergum 4 between scent gland openings, all of tergum 5 and a greater portion of terga 6 and 7 with exception of broad median white area and a large white ovoid macula at antero-lateral angle of each segment, red coloration dark anteriorly, almost carmine on terga 2 and 3; anterior scent gland orifice broader than those between terga 3–4 and 4–5, adjacent sclerotization dark brown, narrow, nearly equally developed anterior to and posterior to opening. Hesse also mentions only the third and distal portion of the fourth antennal segments as being dark brown; however, in the entire long series available for study the second segment is dark brown as well.

Additional features are the presence of a distinct abdominal Y-suture, narrowly but distinctly explanate pronotal margins, broadly explanate mesothoracic wing pads which extend posteriorly to the posterior third of the third abdominal tergum, labium extending well on to abdominal sternum two, legs light yellow with posterior femora infuscated with brown near distal end, pro- and mesopleura dark brown, metapleuron light brown on ventral (mesal) half, white on dorsal half, abdominal sternum largely white, sterna 2–3 bright red, sterna 4, 5 and 6 with a large red elongately triangular band running along posterior half from lateral margin almost to meson and tapering mesally, sterna 6, 7 and 8 with a conspicuous ovoid median brown patch; measurements: length head, 0,78, width 0,74, interocular space 0,42; length pronotum 0,64, width 1,08; length wing pad 1,18; length abdomen, 2,04; length labial segments I 0,72, II 0,72, III 0,74, IV 0,36; length antennal segments I 0,60, II 1,36, III 1,10, IV 1,38; total length 4,60.

Fourth instar: same locality (37). Very similar to instar V, but pale posterior areas on tergum 3 proportionately much narrower, darkened distal portion of 4th antennal segment very lightly so, in some specimens appearing nearly white; measurements: length head 0,72, width 0,70, interocular space 0,42; length pronotum 0,42, width 0,82; length wing pad 0,50; length abdomen 1,78; length labial segments I 0,56, II 0,58, III 0,60, IV 0,30; length antennal segments I 0,42, II 0,90, III 0,78, IV 1,0; total length 3,28.

Third instar: same locality (5). Similar to preceding, 4th antennal segment completely white; measurements: length head 0,65, width 0,56, interocular space 0,36; length pronotum 0,28, width 0,66; length wing pad 0,18; length abdomen 1,34; length labial segments I 0,38, II 0,46, III 0,40, IV 0 26; length antennal segments I 0,32, II 0,64, III 0,56, IV 0,76; total length 2,38.

Second instar: same locality (3). Similar to preceding; head proportionately much larger; labium extending midway to posterior end of abdomen; measurements: length head 0,50, width 0,46, interocular space 0,32; length pronotum 0,17, width 0,46; length abdomen 0,80, length labial segments I 0,34, II 0,32, III 0,32, IV 0,24; length antennal segments I 0,20, II 0,42, III 0,42, IV 0,56; total length 1,58.

Biological notes. On 27 January 1968 we took a long series of adults and nymphs of this species at Neuwieskloof Pass, Tulbagh, Cape Province, in a rocky area midway through the pass. The insects were abundant in a loose aggregation, often in clusters of eight to ten individuals, among and frequently under rocks in a dry but shaded area under a large *Stoebe* sp. plant on the abundant fallen seeds on which the insects were feeding. At Caledon, Cape Province, adults were taken under *Maytenus oleoides* (Lam.) Loes and an undetermined species of Scrophulariaceae. *M. furcifer* moves very rapidly when disturbed. The nymphs in particular are very ant-like in the field in both appearance and movements.

This species appears to be confined largely to the southwestern Cape Province. In addition to the original locality information it was reported by Slater (1964) from 20 mi. ENE of Bredasdorp, Paternoster and Clanwilliam.

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